

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**DATE:** July 10, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Reports of Significant Developments and Activities  
Ending on June 30, 2006

**FROM:** Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division

**TO:** Bharat Mathur  
Acting Regional Administrator

Norman R. Niedergang  
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, other significant developments, and training/conferences:

**SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Oil Response (Pipeline Break), Little Falls, Minnesota**

On June 27, 2006, a crude oil spill was observed in a seasonal wetland in Little Falls, Minnesota, about 1.5 miles from the Mississippi River. Both the Sheriff's Department and Little Falls Fire Department responded. Traffic along 113th Street, Highway 10, and an adjacent Railroad (east of the spill area) was shut down. The Fire Department notified nearby residents (some volunteered to evacuate). Air monitoring by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) detected no hydrogen sulfide and measured volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at less than 50 parts per million (ppm) in the immediate spill area, which dissipated rapidly to insignificant levels out of the immediate spill area.

The pipeline corridor (two 16-inch pipelines) was shut down approximately 20 minutes after notification. The estimated 3,200 barrels of crude oil released impacted no surface waters or navigable waterway. A Unified Command was established, with Koch Pipeline assuming command. On June 28, 2006, the National Response Center was notified and United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Ken Rhame responded. MPCA (Walt Haas) was the lead environmental agency and requested no assistance. At that time, 25,000 gallons

of crude oil had been collected. U.S. EPA's Jane Neumann alerted the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe of the incident.

Free product will continue to be collected. An earthen berm will be constructed to maintain containment in the event of rainfall. Impacted soils will be excavated and disposed. Long term remediation discussions are continuing. U.S. EPA will continue to get briefed daily by MPCA on site activities.

Contacts: Ken Rhame (312-353-6720)  
Jane Neumann (312-353-0123)

#### **Response (Truck Accident), Orland, Indiana**

On June 22, 2006, Rich Hackel of Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requested assistance from U.S. EPA in dealing with a truck accident that had occurred on June 19, 2006, on the Indiana Toll Road near Orland, Indiana. It appears that there was a one vehicle accident, no injuries, but a truck full of various herbicides being shipped by NuFarm Americas, Inc. (NuFarm) was leaking along the toll road right-of-way. When IDEM reported the situation to On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Verneta Simon, Mr. Hackel mentioned there was a language issue and, if possible, to have someone who was fluent in an Eastern European language involved when contacting the trucking company, Gaba-Ohrid Corporation. OSC Verneta Simon found Larisa Leonova from the Waste, Pesticides, and Toxics Division (WPTD), who is fluent in seven languages and is the WPTD's Quality Assurance Coordinator. In addition, Valerie Mullins, Superfund Enforcement Specialist, immediately changed the verbal notice boiler plate so it could be quickly translated by Ms. Leonova. On June 22, both NuFarm and Gaba-Ohrid, were contacted and informed that U.S. EPA was contemplating performing a clean-up of the accident; however, U.S. EPA would give them until June 26 to let U.S. EPA know if they wanted to perform the clean-up. Gaba-Ohrid and NuFarm were not very responsive to IDEM's request because of insurance issues. On June 24, NuFarm started the clean-up with oversight being conducted by IDEM and cordoning off a lane of traffic. Right-of-way restoration was completed on June 30, 2006, and met the approval of the Toll Road Authority.

Contacts: Verneta Simon (312-886-3601)  
Larisa Leonova (312-353-5838)  
Valerie Mullins (312-353-5578)

**Cost Recovery Settlement, Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site, Rockford, Illinois**

On June 28, 2006, the United States Department of Justice filed a motion to lodge a consent decree with the Northern District of Illinois, Western Division for cost recovery and site access for Area 7 of the Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Superfund site, Rockford, Illinois. The decree involves settlement with the owner of a substantial portion of Area 7. Area 7 is one of the primary sources of contamination at the site.

Under the settlement, U.S. EPA will be paid \$ 1,231,125 by the Area 7 owner in a series of payment installments. The owner admits no liability. The consent decree was signed by legal representatives for the Area 7 owner and the Region 5 Superfund Division Director a few days prior to lodging with the Court. This settlement concludes successful mediated negotiations between the U.S. EPA and the Area 7 landowner. The decree also concludes a period of litigation between the U.S. and the Area 7 owner.

The selected remedy for Area 7 is documented in the June 2002 Operable Unit #3 Record of Decision. Contaminated soils will be treated by soil vapor extraction and air sparging. In addition, a groundwater management zone will be established; a leachate containment and treatment system will address the contaminated groundwater.

Contact: Russell Hart (312-886-4844)

**Extraction Well Pump Change Completed, Fisher-Calo Superfund Site, Kingsbury, Indiana**

A number of pumps on extraction wells for the Fisher-Calo Superfund Site in Kingsbury, Indiana, were changed during the week of June 5, 2006. The pumps need to be changed and cleaned periodically due to sediment and iron build-up. Jeff Gore, the U.S. EPA remedial project manager, met Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) project manager Resa Ramsey and IDEM geologist Sampath Kumar to oversee the work.

The Fisher-Calo remedial action is being implemented under the 1990 Record of Decision and corresponding 1992 potentially responsible party lead consent decree. The site has been in operation and maintenance since 1998. The remedy currently

involves a pump & treatment system for four groundwater plumes, as the soil portion of the remedy was completed in 2003. The property was previously used for solvent recycling operations before it became a Superfund site.

Contact: Jeff Gore (312-886-6552)

#### **OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS**

##### **Region 5 Remedial Action Small Business Set-Aside Contract Awarded**

On June 29, 2006, the second of the two proposed Region 5 Remedial Action Contracts was awarded to SulTRAC, Inc., a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business and Small Disadvantaged Business. The contract value is approximately 359 million dollars. SulTRAC Inc. is a joint venture between Sullivan International Group and Tetra Tech EM, Inc. The joint venture partners have a Small Business Administration (SBA) approved mentor protégée agreement that has been in place for several years. The new contract will provide Region 5 with the Architect-Engineer (A-E) Services required in the support of Superfund's remediation program. The base period of the contract will be from June 29, 2006, through June 28, 2011. This contract also has one five year option period, which could result in a ten year contract.

This award is the result of the significant joint efforts of numerous staff representing both the Superfund Division and Resources Management Division over the last 18 months. Now that the contract has been awarded, the contracts staff from both divisions will be working with the work assignment managers to issue work assignments to meet the contractor support needs at various Superfund sites in Region 5.

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David Alberts (312-353-2075)

#### **TRAINING/CONFERENCES**

##### **Oil Pollution Act Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises and Inspections, Toledo, Ohio**

During the week of June 19, 2006, Sheila Calovich, Alex Tzallas and On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) P.C. Lall conducted Oil Pollution Act (OPA) Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises in Toledo, Ohio. Facilities that were visited include Middleport Terminal,

Center Terminal, Sunoco, Asphalt Materials, and Westway Terminal. Unannounced drills were conducted at Middleport Terminal, Center Terminal and Asphalt Materials. All of these facilities successfully completed the drill, but will have to update their notification list in their Facility Response Plan (FRP). FRP inspections were conducted at Sunoco Tank Farm #2, Sunoco Toledo Marine Terminal, Hocking Valley Dock, and Westway Toledo Terminal #19. OSC P.C. Lall also conducted a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) inspection at Westway Terminal. Westway Terminal will be asked to update their FRP. For 2006, Ms. Calovich and Mr. Tzallas have conducted a total of 14 drills and 5 inspections. Of the 14 drills, 10 facilities have passed the drills and 4 have failed.

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 Alex Tzallas (312-886-0622)  
 P.C. Lall (734-692-7685)

#### **Landfill Fire Conference, Canton, Bowling Green, and Dayton, Ohio**

On June 11-13, 2006, U.S. EPA assisted the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) with presenting a conference on landfill fires. The conference was presented for local fire departments, other first responders, and landfill owners. The conference was designed to discuss the potential dangers of a landfill fire and how to deal with them. U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Jeff Kimble, Joe Fredle, and Steve Renninger assisted with presenting at the conference. U.S. EPA's discussion included U.S. EPA response capabilities, case studies from landfill fires, and steps for pre-planning for landfill fires. The conference was well received and Ohio EPA stated that they plan to present the conference again next year in different cities.

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